

## **RESOLUTION NO. RS2018-1182**

**A resolution honoring James Shaw, Jr. whose heroism, prompt action, and selfless disregard for his own safety spared numerous lives on April 22, 2018.**

WHEREAS, on April 22, 2018, Travis Reinking of Morton, Illinois ("the assailant") appeared at a Waffle House restaurant on Murfreesboro Pike in Antioch, Tennessee at approximately 3:25 a.m. armed with weapons, including an AR-15; and

WHEREAS, for no discernible reason, the assailant began methodically firing into the restaurant from the parking lot, shattering the glass window at the front before entering the restaurant and continuing to fire directly upon patrons and employees, killing four people and injuring at least seven others; and

WHEREAS, among the restaurant patrons who were cornered by the assailant was James Shaw, Jr., age 29, who had come to the restaurant with a friend when another restaurant he had visited appeared too crowded; and

WHEREAS, shortly after entering the Waffle House restaurant, Mr. Shaw overheard gun shots and observed that the assailant had paused firing as he entered the door, perhaps to re-load; and

WHEREAS, with no concern for his own safety, Mr. Shaw rushed the assailant, wrestled the gun away from him, and threw it over the counter; and

WHEREAS, as a result of Mr. Shaw's heroic efforts, the assailant retreated; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shaw suffered wounds himself in the process, including a bullet graze on his arm and third degree burns on his hands; and

WHEREAS, according to Metro Nashville Police Department spokesman Don Aaron, Mr. Shaw acted as a true hero and spared the lives of multiple patrons and employees by virtue of his prompt action and selfless heroism; and

WHEREAS, in subsequent public comments and media statements, Mr. Shaw has humbly deflected praise for his actions, stating simply that he does not feel like a hero; and

WHEREAS, in the face of unspeakable tragedies, the lives of so many are so often saved only by the bravery and heroism of those around them who -- though they may resemble regular citizens in an average day -- are in fact heroes when the need arises; and for such individuals, the people of Nashville are especially grateful.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY:

SECTION 1. That the Metropolitan County Council hereby goes on record as recognizing Mr. James Shaw, Jr. for his outstanding act of bravery and heroism.

SECTION 2. The Metropolitan Council Staff is directed to prepare a copy of the Resolution to be presented to Mr. James Shaw, Jr.

SECTION 3. This Resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption, the welfare of The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.

INTRODUCED BY:

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Members of Council